



PRESS RELEASE

NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE
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Washington's Winter Wheat for Harvest Acreage Unchanged from Last Year Dry Bean Acreage Highest Since 1981

OLYMPIA, Wash., June 30, 2006-- The results of a State and National survey conducted in early June 2006 showed that Washington growers expect to harvest 1.80 million acres of winter wheat in 2006, the same acreage as was harvested last year. Acres of harvest for spring wheat, oats, alfalfa hay, other hay, dry beans and sugarbeets will also be above last year, while fewer acres of barley and field corn are expected to be harvested. Christina Messer, Director of the National Agricultural Statistics Service, Washington Field Office, states "Winter wheat acres for harvest in 2006 is expected to be unchanged from 2005 while spring wheat harvested acres increased 30,000 acres from last year and barley dipped 10,000 acres. Dry edible beans acreage for harvest increased the most, with 70,000 acres expected to be harvested compared with 48,000 acres in 2005."

All hay harvested is expected to reach 790,000 acres, 50,000 acres above last year's crop. Both alfalfa and other hay acres are above 2005. Alfalfa cut for hay is forecast at 460,000 acres, 10,000 acres above 2005 and other hay acreage for harvest is estimated at 330,000 acres, up 40,000 acres.

Field corn, oats, dry beans, and sugarbeet acreage for harvest was also collected in the survey. Planted acres of field corn are down 20,000 acres from 2005 to 130,000 acres. Field corn harvested for grain is down 10,000 acres to 70,000 acres. Dry bean planted acres jumped to 70,000 acres with all of them expected to be harvested. This is 21,000 acres more than last year and the highest level since 1981 when 70,000 acres were planted and 69,000 acres harvested. Growers expect to harvest 10,000 acres of oats for grain from 25,000 planted acres for all purposes.

Pacific Northwest (Washington, Oregon, and Idaho) showed all wheat acres for 2006 harvest up 20,000 acres to 4.34 million acres. Growers planted 65,000 more spring wheat acres than last year. Barley acreage for harvest in the three states fell 70,000 acres to 780,000 acres.

Nationally, the all wheat planted area is estimated at 57.9 million acres, up 1 percent from 2005. The 2006 winter wheat planted area, at 41.4 million acres, is 2 percent above last year but virtually unchanged from the previous year's estimates. Of this total, about 29.7 million acres are Hard Red Winter, 7.45 million acres are Soft Red Winter, and 4.21 million acres are White Winter. Area planted to other spring wheat for 2006 is estimated at 14.6 million acres, up 4 percent from 2005. Of this total, about 13.9 million acres are Hard Red Spring wheat.

The **next estimate for field crops** will be published July 12, 2006.

JUNE ACREAGE SUMMARY, 2005-2006

| CROP | WASHINGTON | | | | ACREAGE FOR HARVEST | | | |
|---------------------|-------------|-------|-----------|---------|---------------------|---------|---------------|---------|
| | Planted | | Harvested | | Pacific NW 1/ | | United States | |
| | 2005 | 2006 | 2005 | 2006 5/ | 2005 | 2006 5/ | 2005 | 2006 5/ |
| | 1,000 Acres | | | | | | | |
| All Wheat | 2,280 | 2,310 | 2,225 | 2,255 | 4,320 | 4,340 | 50,119 | 47,084 |
| Winter Wheat | 1,850 | 1,850 | 1,800 | 1,800 | 3,310 | 3,270 | 33,794 | 31,108 |
| Spring Wheat | 430 | 460 | 425 | 455 | 990 | 1,055 | 13,609 | 14,154 |
| Barley | 215 | 205 | 205 | 195 | 850 | 780 | 3,269 | 2,990 |
| Oats 2/ | 25 | 25 | 8 | 10 | 46 | 50 | 1,823 | 1,907 |
| Corn 3/ | 150 | 130 | 80 | 70 | 165 | 170 | 75,107 | 72,091 |
| Alfalfa | - | - | 450 | 460 | 1,990 | 2,050 | 22,389 | 22,407 |
| Hay, Other | - | - | 290 | 330 | 1,160 | 1,320 | 39,260 | 40,290 |
| Dry Edible Beans 4/ | 49.0 | 70.0 | 48.0 | 70.0 | 154.8 | 189.8 | 1,568.6 | 1,465.0 |
| Sugarbeets | 1.7 | 2.0 | 1.7 | 2.0 | 178.4 | 202.2 | 1,242.9 | 1,321.1 |

1/ Includes Oregon, Idaho, and Washington.

2/ Includes area planted in preceding fall.

3/ Planted acreage includes planted for all purposes; harvested acres for grain only.

4/ Excludes beans grown for garden seed.

5/ Forecasted.

To access the entire release, including the complete narrative and tables, point to
http://www.nass.usda.gov/Statistics_by_State/Washington/press/junacre.pdf

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